

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

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R 220938Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5486

INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

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AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USUN NEW YORK 1249

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1091

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ZA, RH, UK, US

SUBJ: GRZ - INSPIRED ARTICLE QUESTIONS UTILITY OF  
CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA

REF: (A) LUSAKA 1068 (NOTAL); (B) LUSAKA 1011 (NOTAL);

(C) LUSAKA 0968 (NOTAL); (D) LUSAKA 1083 (NOTAL)

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. DAILY MAIL NEWS ANALYSIS ARTICLE APRIL 21 QUESTIONS THE  
UTILITY OF BRITAIN CALLING ANOTHER CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE.

BRITAIN IS TOO WEAK TO DISLODGE SMITH, AND, IN ANY CASE,

BRITISH REAL INTENTION IS TO PROTECT THEIR KITH AND KIN

IN RHODESIA. BRITISH AND RHODESIANS ARE SCHEMING TO PROVIDE

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UANC WITH THE ARMY IT LACKS. SOME BRITISH OFFICIALS AND THE  
RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT ARE SUPPORTING UANC AS A PUPPET AND AN  
ALTERNATIVE TO A TRULY INDEPENDENT BLACK GOVERNMENT IN ZIMBABWE.  
UANC'S ARMED FORCE WOULD HAVE AS ITS NUCLEUS UNITS OF THE  
REGULAR RHODESIAN ARMY AND WOULD BE USED AGAINST THE PATRIOTIC  
FRONT. FINANCING OF THIS FORCE WOULD COME FROM THE SAME WESTERN  
SOURCES AND SOUTH AFRICA WHICH HAVE SUPPORTED SMITH.

2. ARTICLE APPROVES PATRIOTIC FRONT'S REJECTION OF THE PARTICIPATION OF SOME "SO CALLED" ZIMBABWE LEADERS IN A FUTURE CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE AND ITS DECLARATION THAT ZIMBABWEANS WOULD FIGHT "ANY STOOGUE GOVERNMENT BRITAIN INSTALLS IN RHODESIA." WHY SHOULD PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN WELCOMED BY A FEW THOUSAND AT AN AIRPORT BE INVITED TO TAKE PART AT "CEASE FIRE NEGOTIATIONS?"

3. ARTICLE ASSERTS THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HAS REJECTED DIRECT U.S. PARTICIPATION IN A CONFERENCE BECAUSE IT WOULD INTERNATIONALIZE THE SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE. THE ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND IS SEEN AS ANOTHER STEP TOWARDS INTERNATIONALIZATION. FUND IS PART OF WESTERN MOVE TO RETAIN INFLUENCE IN ZIMBABWE IF NOT TO "PLACE IN POWER A PUPPET GOVERNMENT." MANY QUESTIONS REMAIN TO BE ANSWERED ABOUT WHO WILL ADMINISTER THE FUND AND AT WHAT POINT IT WILL GO INTO EFFECT. WILL THE U.S. CONTROL THE USE OF THE FUND? WILL IT BE A LOAN OR A GRANT? WHEN WILL IT BE DISBURSED, DURING THE TRANSITION PHASE OR ONLY AFTER AN INDEPENDENT GOVERNMENT IS INSTALLED? WILL THE FUND BE AVAILABLE TO A GOVERNMENT LED BY THE PATRIOTIC FRONT?

4. ARTICLE CONCLUDES, THAT FOR THE STABILITY OF THE REGION, ANY RHODESIAN SOLUTION THAT EXCLUDES THE FRONT IS BOUND TO FAIL.

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COMMENT: THIS IS ONE MORE IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES INSPIRED BY STATE HOUSE (SEE REFTELS B AND C) PLACING ON THE PUBLIC RECORD GRZ RESERVATIONS ABOUT A NEW CONFERENCE  
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ON RHODESIA AND GRZ SUPPORT FOR THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. IT FOLLOWS CLOSELY ARGUMENTS MADE BY FONMIN MWALE TO THE AMBASSADOR APRIL 21 (REFTEL D). THIS ARTICLE IS NOTABLE FOR ITS CONDEMNATION OF THE "BRITISH-RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT SCHEME" TO SET UP AN ARMED FORCE FOR MUZOREWA. IN PRIVATE TALKS WITH ZAMBIANS AND ZAPU OFFICIALS, THEY HAVE RAISED THIS AS A POSSIBILITY, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE SEEN THE IDEA DENOUNCED IN A PUBLIC FORUM. THIS ALSO IS THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE SEEN THE ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND ADDRESSED IN SUCH DETAIL. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE ARTICLE, WHILE NEGATIVE IN TONE TO A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE, LEAVES THE DOOR OPEN FOR A CONFERENCE IF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HAS ASSURANCES OF MAINTAINING THE UPPER HAND.  
LOW

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## Message Attributes

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